

The Grasslands Trust
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee and
Registered Charity)**



**Report and Financial Statements
For the Year Ended October 31st 2009**

**Charity Number 1097893
Company Number 4443047**

Wessex House, Upper Market Street, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO50 9FD

The Grasslands Trust

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The Grasslands Trust
Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended October 31st 2009

The Trustees present their report and audited financial statements for the year ended Oct 31st 2009.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name	The Grasslands Trust
Charity Registration Number	1097893
Company Registration Number	4443047
Registered Office	Wessex House Upper Market Street Eastleigh Hampshire, SO50 9FD.
Operation Address	Wessex House Upper Market Street Eastleigh Hampshire, SO50 9FD.
Trustee Board	Andrew Barker Barry Humphreys Bob Gibbons John Mitchell Paul Toynton Steve Dolley Michael Herington (Treasurer - joined 25.1.2010) Tom Oliver (Joined 14.11.2009) Jon Valters (Chair) Michael Waterson (Resigned 3.3.09)
Chief Executive & Company Secretary	Lucy Cooper
Auditors	BD&M Limited Statutory Auditors Skies, 20 St Martinsfield Winterborne St Martin Dorchester Dorset DT2 9JU
Bankers	National Westminster Bank PLC 105 High Street Winchester Hampshire, SO23 9AW. CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill West Malling Kent, ME19 4JQ
Solicitors	Blake Laphorn New Kings Court Tollgate Chandlers Ford Eastleigh Hampshire SO53 3LG

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Grasslands Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 20 May 2002 and registered as a charity on 9 June 2003. The company is governed by its memorandum and articles of association. The Grasslands Trust's objects are to promote the conservation, protection and restoration of grasslands and any associated habitats to safeguard and promote biodiversity. In the event of the company being wound up, trustees (members) are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The directors of The Grasslands Trust are also charity Trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's articles are also the Members. Under the requirements of the memorandum and articles of association one third (or the number nearest one third) of Trustees must retire at each AGM. Retiring Trustees can be re-elected. As the Trust is still in its infancy, there is currently no fixed term of office for Trustees.

The Grasslands Trust's work focuses on the conservation and management of wildflower-rich grasslands – currently the UK's most threatened habitat. Due to the specialised nature of its work, the Trustee board is made up of individuals with considerable experience in this field. The Trust actively encourages the input and support of other professionals, either as volunteers or potential trustees, through its network of partners on the ground and more recently the establishment of a Conservation Committee. The more traditional business, fundraising and marketing skills needed to run a charity are also represented on the board. At the time of writing this report, two new Trustees have joined the board. Tom Oliver, formerly Head of Rural Policy at CPRE who brings with him considerable experience in landscape architecture, policy, media and campaign work and Michael Herington – former Chief Executive of the Greater London Fund for the Blind. Now semi-retired, Michael has been involved in charities and finance for over twenty years and joins The Grasslands Trust as Treasurer. Michael Waterson stood down as trustee during this period due to work commitments.

Trustee Induction and Training

The Trustee Board has signed up to a Code of Governance, and adopts its seven principles of best practice. These principles, which are endorsed by the National Hub of Expertise in Governance, focus on: Leadership; Responsibility; Performance; Review; Delegation; Integrity and Openness. Job descriptions for trustees, the Chairman and Treasurer have all been produced. An induction programme has been developed for new trustees, which ensures that they receive detailed information about the Trust.

Risk Management

The Trust has produced a risk management strategy and new procedures and systems for mitigating risks have been adopted by the Board. These include the establishment of a Finance Sub-Committee to support and monitor day to day financial management and fundraising activity as well as a Conservation Committee, to provide support and guidance to The Trust's newly appointed Director of Conservation. During 2009, The Trust finalised its 2009-2014 Business Plan which has greatly assisted the setting of organisational priorities. Financial management systems were also reviewed and updated to improve efficiency. In order to reduce bank charges and take advantage of online banking facilities, the Trust moved its banking over to CAF Bank Ltd. It still holds an account with Nat West and a savings account with Standard Life.

Organisational Structure

The Grasslands Trust's Trustee board must consist of a minimum of three and maximum of 12 trustees, who are required to meet at least twice a year. Trustees are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity.

During 2009 the Trustee board consisted of eight Trustees and 6 meetings were held. Issues debated included: land acquisition; the England Biodiversity Strategy; Community Grasslands; publicity; Company Law; The Trust's Group Higher Level Stewardship Agreement; and Investments and Banking. The board also agreed a policy on 'The Use of Seed and Local Provenance'.

The Chief Executive is responsible for the day-to-day running of the charity, personnel management, delivery of strategic objectives and implementation of policies and campaigns. A total of nine staff are now employed as well as three graduate interns. Many staff work remotely and a regional office has been set up in Durham.

Partnership Working and Related Parties

In the last three years The Grasslands Trust has established strong working relationships with over 80 different charities and organisations. Partnership working is at the heart of the Trust's ethos: enabling it to achieve more, share resources and avoid duplication. This method of working has enabled The Trust to save and restore three threatened sites of national importance and take forward plans to acquire a fourth (hopefully during 2010).

In Carmarthenshire the Trust has taken over the management of the main part of a National Nature Reserve from the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) and is working to restore and extend this valuable area working closely with community groups and BTCV. During 2009, staff secured substantial funding from the landfill community fund - Working with Nature. Over the next three years, the Trust will work in partnership with the Bumblebee Conservation Trust to restore 40 hectares of semi-improved grassland to increase populations of threatened bumblebee species. The Trust continues to jointly own and manage South Poorton Farm with the Dorset Wildlife Trust (DWT) and during 2009, spent time working with DWT to secure Higher Level Stewardship funding. In Durham, the Trust launched an innovative project working with Natural England, to save and restore rare grassland habitats. Over the next ten years 50 hectares of lowland meadow and magnesian limestone will benefit from agri-environment funding secured through one of the country's first group Higher Level Stewardship agreements. A regional office in Durham was also established and plans to do the same in Carmarthenshire taken forward.

Across the UK, the Trust is involved in a number of local and national grassland projects including the Open University's National Floodplain Meadows Project and a Dorset led initiative called Pastures New. It is also on the steering group for the "Saving Our Magnificent Meadows Project (SMMP)" hosted by Plantlife on behalf of Natural England, Countryside Council for Wales, Dept of Environment Northern Ireland and Scottish Natural Heritage. Set up in 2008, SMMP is investigating ways to increase the amount of funding available for local grassland projects across the UK.

Staff continued to advise a wide range of landowners ranging from individuals, small holders and community groups to large companies and local authorities. This advisory work increased substantially during the year following a public appeal on Radio Four. The Trust was also very active within the Wildlife and Countryside Link – an umbrella organisation which enables conservation groups to lobby and campaign on a range of environmental issues such as biodiversity, agriculture, planning and land-use. Following significant changes to the structure of the Biodiversity Action Plan process, The Trust gained representation on a number of new policy groups including the Lowland Farmland Biodiversity Integration Group, England Biodiversity Group and the Agricultural Workstream.

OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

The Grasslands Trust's objects and principal activities are to promote the conservation, protection and restoration of grasslands and any associated habitats to safeguard and promote biodiversity. The Trust's aims to:

- Secure the future of grassland sites of beauty, special wildlife, landscape or cultural value.
- Inform and influence conservationists, landowners, local and central government.
- Work with other nature conservation organisations in order to co-ordinate work and share resources.
- Raise awareness of the value and vulnerability of grasslands.
- Advise farmers, landowners and the public on grassland management and restoration.

Achieving public benefit

The Grasslands Trust is one of the only conservation charities in Europe entirely dedicated to saving wildlife-rich grasslands. In its first seven years the Trust has focused on saving important grassland sites, lobbying for change and giving practical advice. As a new charity with high ambitions The Trust has been determined to highlight the plight of this rapidly disappearing wildlife-rich habitat to a wide range of different audiences: in particular government, the general public, funders and other NGOs.

The Trust believes it has established a firm foundation for its grassland conservation work, building partnerships and alliances with over 80 different organisations as well as introducing policies and best practices to strengthen its overall organisation. It also believes it provides an essential public benefit because no other charity focuses so singularly on the plight of our wildlife-rich grasslands.

The Trust has raised nearly £2 million from funders such as: the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation; John Ellerman Foundation; Garfield Weston; The Dulverton Trust; John Spedan Lewis Foundation; The Lottery; CWM Environment Fund; Grantscape; Biffaward; and the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund (Wales). This generous support has enabled the Trust to achieve the following.

Securing the future of grassland sites

- Saving and securing three important wildlife sites in the UK covering 154 hectares of grassland and related habitat. These sites contain many rare species and habitats and are close to or adjoin other quality wildlife sites. Central to each project has been partnership working in order to maximise resources, skills and experience.
- Launching an innovative project in the North East of England, to protect some of the UK's rarest grassland habitats. The project has the full support of Natural England and involves The Grasslands Trust advising and helping a number of landowners with funding secured through a special Higher Level Stewardship Agreement.
- Implementing our first community grasslands project at Hocombe Mead, Chandler's Ford, working closely with Eastleigh Borough Council. The project received a £50k grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to improve visitor access and has been such a success that it is currently showcased on their website. An exciting programme of events, workshops and publicity materials has helped quadruple the number of visitors to this urban green space. Access has been greatly improved with the installation of new boardwalks and gates; and a volunteer group has been formed to help sustain the ongoing management of these 400 year old meadows and woodlands.
- Successfully completing a 3-year capital works programme at Carmel National Nature Reserve to restore 60 hectares of grassland. The project has involved the purchase of neighboring grasslands to help protect and extend the National Nature Reserve while encouraging neighboring landowners to better manage their wildlife-rich grasslands.
- Securing development funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund to advance plans to purchase one of the largest remaining areas of ancient grassland in England. The land in Herefordshire, is part of farm which dates back to the Domesday Book. It boasts some 30 hectares of medieval hay meadow rich in flowers such as: Ox-eye daisy; Meadow vetchling; Greater butterfly orchid; Common spotted orchid; and Lady's bedstraw, as well as a significant area of limestone grassland – which is incredibly rare across the West Midlands.

Informing and influencing

- Working with government officials to produce two sets of guidance for Eco-town developers: The "Green Infrastructure Guidance Worksheet" specifically highlights the importance of grasslands as invaluable green spaces for wildlife, relaxation, leisure and general well-being; and the "Biodiversity" worksheet provides guidance on how Eco-town development should protect and enhance wildlife whilst securing net biodiversity gain. Hocombe Mead – the Trust's first community grassland project, based in Chandlers Ford, Hampshire is used as a case study to demonstrate the effectiveness of such policies.
- Providing written evidence on grassland losses to the Environmental Audit Select Committee to inform its report "Halting Biodiversity Loss".

- Being an active member of the Government's Habitat Action Plan Steering Group for Grasslands in order to raise awareness about the plight of highly threatened grassland habitats; latterly gaining representation on new government policy and advisory groups including the Agricultural Workstream, Lowland Agricultural Biodiversity Information Group and the England Biodiversity Group.
- Providing important data on extent and status of UK grasslands to inform the latest round of reporting on UK Habitat Action Plans.
- Forming a collation with CPRE, RSPB, Plantlife, the Wildlife Trusts, to co-ordinate work on the impacts of the 2006 Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations in order to urge DEFRA to make important changes to ensure grasslands less than 2ha are not lost to agricultural improvement.
- Being an active member of Wildlife and Countryside Link in order to influence government policies on grassland conservation; and chairing a specially formed landscape-scale working group.
- Being invited onto the steering groups of a number of important local, regional and national grassland projects such as the Open University's Floodplain Meadows project, Haytime projects and Pastures New.
- Providing advice to grant making trusts on the quality and merits of grassland projects submitted for funding.

Grassland management, support and advise

- Involving and inspiring over 200 disadvantaged people in grassland conservation, providing training and supervision in skills such as coppicing, scrub clearance, dry stone walling and charcoal burning. Many of these individuals have found volunteering for The Grasslands Trust has changed their lives. This work is about to be showcased on the Trust's first promotional DVD.
- Providing one to one specialist advice to over 300 individuals, farmers, landowners, and other charities.
- Supporting a Trans-European funded project to conserve and restore ancient hay meadows in Transylvania. Romania has some of the best remaining wildlife rich grasslands in Europe which are under threat from intensive farming. This project would not have gone ahead without our involvement.
- Giving advice on meadow restoration to manjor land owners such as His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales at Highgrove Estate and Lord Montague at Beaulieu Estate.
- Handling over 30 requests for help in saving sites from Natural England, The Countryside Council for Wales, the Peak District National Park Authority, various Wildlife Trusts, ecologists, conservationists and landowners.

Awareness

- Raising awareness about the importance of wildlife-rich grasslands and associated habitats on television and radio: including winning a £45,000 grant from the ITV (Wales) People's Millions and securing £14,000 in donations from the Radio Four Charity Appeal.
- Winning two conservation awards for an innovative grassland recreation project in Chester le Street, Co. Durham which involved transforming part of a city park into a hay meadow.
- Attracting support from over 500 members of the public through national and local charity appeals; increasing our online presence with 700 followers on Twitter and Facebook.
- Producing a DVD on the life changing impact volunteering at Carmel NNR can have, for funders and donors.
- Gaining national, regional and local media coverage; launching our in-house newsletter Broadcast and a new website which has been incredibly well received by critics. (A review by Third sector stated that "the site was a good achievement given the spend" (£2k) and on first impression was "excellent".

Our work - whether giving advice to the owner of a grassland, influencing decision makers, carrying out habitat restoration or generating awareness about the plight of wildlife-rich grasslands - inevitably comes at a cost and raising funds continues to be highly competitive. In the current economic climate, the Trustees have agreed the following Strategic Priorities.

- Campaigning - the Trust wants to influence government and lobby on the specific issues which effect grasslands. Nationally and regionally work will also focus on influencing business leaders, funders, statutory bodies and NGOs.
- Directly supporting grassland conservation – either through the Trust’s own projects, through partnerships or by supporting the work of others the Trust is highly committed to practical conservation work and in particular landscape-scale conservation.
- People and Grasslands – raising awareness about the environmental, cultural, historical and amenity value of grasslands: specifically targeting the general public; local authorities and statutory bodies; landowners; private developers and businesses.
- Research – to know what grassland action is taking place across the UK, where gaps exist and understand the barriers to effective grassland conservation. Identifying grassland losses and increases: Research data will be used to focus conservation efforts and influence the work of others. It will also help the Trust avoid duplication of effort.

2008-09 ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

Overview of activities

This has undoubtedly been another spectacular year for the Trust despite the extremely tough economic climate. Most notable achievements include:

- Securing three years funding from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation to employ a Director of Conservation. After a rigorous recruitment process, Miles King was promoted to this full-time position in October 2009.
- Implementing a substantial capital works programme at the Stag and Pheasant land (purchased 2008 in order to extend Carmel National Nature Reserve) which included fencing extremely rocky terrain and re-introducing grazing to areas of grassland, heath and mire.
- Completing the first phase of woodland management at Carmel in order to restore ancient grassland rides – and re-establishing appropriate habitat for a number of rare plants including Lily of the Valley.
- Involving over 100 disadvantaged people in the conservation management of ancient woodland at Carmel and providing training in traditional crafts such as coppicing and charcoaling.
- Holding an exciting programme of community events at Hocombe which attracted 290 new people to this local nature reserve. Over 17 events were held ranging from a Christmas carol sing-along with the Samaritans to a Teddy Bears Picnic; a rapture day, a photography workshop and a forest school day for families.
- Significantly raising the profile of grasslands by winning the public vote to secure £45,000 on ITV (Wales) People’s Millions, broadcast to millions of homes across Wales and securing coverage on Radio 4’s charity appeal, read by award winning garden designer Chris Beardshaw.
- Recruiting our first 500 grassland supporters.
- Launching an innovative project with support from Natural England to protect some of the last remaining areas of magnesian limestone grassland in areas of the North East of England.
- Securing one of five grants from Grantscape’s ‘Working with Nature Fund’ to support the creation of bumblebee friendly habitat across 40 hectares of semi-improved grassland at Carmel. This three year project starts in 2010 and involves working in partnership with the Bumblebee Conservation Trust.
- Opening a regional office at the Durham Wildlife Trust’s visitor centre at Low Barns, at Whitton le Wear.
- Working closely with the Town and Country Planning Association and RSPB to influence the Government’s policy on Eco-towns and helping to produce two guidance worksheets focused on Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity.
- Continuing to lead a campaign with CPRE, RSPB, The Wildlife Trusts, Plantlife and Natural England to strengthen the protection afforded to grasslands through the Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) Regulations.
- Researching important new evidence about the state of England’s grassland habitats.
- Acting as a catalyst for local grassland projects by forging new conservation partnerships, including sharing offices with the Bumblebee Conservation Trust.

Advocacy and Awareness Raising

Influencing the policies and regulations which protect grasslands remains pivotal to The Grasslands Trust work and 2008-09 continued to see progress in this area. Having become a full member of Wildlife and Countryside Link (WCL) the Trust was able to contribute to a number of debates on agriculture, land-use, landscape-scale conservation and planning.

Biodiversity Action

At the "Rio Summit" in 1992, the UK signed the Convention on Biological Diversity and produced the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. This set out for the first time, what were the priorities for action to halt the loss of biodiversity in the UK and elsewhere. Britain's lowland grasslands were recognised from the outset as not only internationally important, but severely threatened. In 2002 the UK signed up to Countdown 2010, where the Government committed to halt biodiversity loss by 2010. The UK Biodiversity process was devolved in 2006, and split into separate biodiversity initiatives in the 4 UK countries. This process came into being during 2009. Due to limited resources The Trust has had to focus on England.

The Trust's Director of Conservation, Miles King has been very successful working through the biodiversity process to try and gain extra commitment on action for wildlife-rich grasslands. Working through Wildlife Link's biodiversity group, The Trust was able to lobby for a new target to replace the failed 2010 target. The Trust was also able to provide important data to inform Wildlife and Countryside Link's assessment of progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target. Although progress has been made in some areas, for example improvement to the condition of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), in other areas of biodiversity work, progress has been slow or non-existent. As a consequence, grassland priority habitats and species continue to decline.

During 2009, the Government commissioned a review of protected areas and ecological networks, chaired by distinguished ecologist Professor Sir John Lawton, to see how it can improve the current system for protecting wildlife species and habitat, and in particular whether a "Landscape-scale" approach to conservation will work, and what it means. The Grasslands Trust believes that for most grassland species and habitats, a landscape-scale approach is the best way to conserve them in the long-term. Its response to the Lawton review can be found on the Trust's website at <http://www.grasslands-trust.org/campaign.php?campaignid=7>.

Eco-town Guidance

2009 saw Government's plans to build three million new homes in England by 2020 severely delayed by the current recession. However The Grasslands Trust is mindful that the demand for homes, particularly affordable ones, remains. Once the economy moves towards recovery, the pressures on land for housing will return, and it will be essential that houses are built in the right places and to high environmental standards.

The Grasslands Trust is mindful that the Ecotowns project has not grabbed the public's imagination in the way the Government had hoped. There were many positive aspects not least that Ecotowns would be built to very high standards, incorporating much green infrastructure. In 2009, after much careful thought The Grasslands Trust decided to join the Ecotowns Coalition, alongside Buglife, believing that overall the Ecotowns project would be good for grasslands and their wildlife. During 2009 The Grasslands Trust lobbied hard, to increase the proportion of green infrastructure within Ecotowns from the government recommendation of 20% to 40%, and to define what that green infrastructure should be for and who would look after it. Staff worked with the Town and Country Planning Association to produce the Ecotowns Green Infrastructure worksheet and were delighted with this achievement.

The Green Infrastructure worksheet (which can be downloaded at <http://www.tcpa.org.uk/pages/green-infrastructure.html>) is not just for Ecotowns. It provides useful guidance and advice that is applicable to all new development. Indeed, the latest set of potential ecotowns include urban extensions ("eco-quarters"), and this is a change in direction compared with the original notion of free-standing new developments.

Following on from the work on the green infrastructure, a sister document on biodiversity was also produced and published just before Christmas 2009. - <http://www.tcpa.org.uk/pages/biodiversity.html>.

This guidance will also be very useful for developers and planners considering how to integrate the needs of biodiversity into new developments, big or small. The guidance also draws on The Grasslands Trust 's Hocombe Mead community grassland project as a case study of how to do it.

Whether or not the Ecotowns project survives beyond the next election, The Grasslands Trust is committed to lobbying for planning guidance that enables wildlife-rich grasslands to be protected, restored and created through new urban developments. This is integral to the charities vision – that one day, everyone will enjoy a wildlife-rich grassland close to where they live.

Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) (England) Regulations 2006

These regulations exist to protect uncultivated land and semi-natural areas not protected by any designated status or environmental stewardship scheme. They are therefore a highly important form of protection for many undesignated wildlife-rich grasslands. In October 2006 revisions to the regulations were brought in; the most profound change being the introduction of a 2 hectare threshold which allows landowners with an area of land less than this to increase the intensity of agriculture without needing consent; either physically through ploughing or chemically through fertilizing.

An enormous amount of the UK's remaining wildlife-rich grassland exists in areas less than 2 hectares and much of it is unprotected. Following research undertaken in 2008, in July The Grasslands Trust together with the support of many other NGOs submitted a letter to DEFRA drawing attention to the shortcomings of the Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) (England) Regulations 2006.

Following several meetings with DEFRA and Natural England officials a formal response from the Minister was received late 2009. The Trust is now considering next steps, which will include carrying out research across Europe to compare the situation here with other countries that still have significant areas of wildlife-rich grasslands. The Trust is also considering whether to take a complaint to the European Commission, on the grounds that the European Directive on Environmental Impact Assessment is not being properly implemented for intensive agriculture.

Biodiversity Offsets

In 2009 The Trust became involved in proposals being developed for habitat banking, or biodiversity offsets. The proposals focused on the notion that a developer would have to buy biodiversity credits if their development was going to have an impact on biodiversity, directly or indirectly. These credits would then be used to protect an equivalent amount of biodiversity either nearby the development or further away. Biodiversity credits have the potential to create significant large areas of wildlife habitat, including grasslands. However, there are many pitfalls and if the policy is not clearly thought out, it could lead to a 'free for-all', where important habitats are destroyed, but replacement habitats are ill conceived or fail to develop. At the time of writing this report, both the Labour Government and the Conservative Party are interested in these ideas. During 2009, the Trust started to investigate these proposals, working with our partner organisations through Wildlife Link.

Awareness work

In November 2008, The Grasslands Trust's profile received a substantial boost when it won a place in the finals of ITV Wales' People Millions. Conservation work at Carmel National Nature Reserve won the hearts and minds of hundreds of people who phoned in to vote for their favorite project – enabling the Trust to win a £45,000 grant to carry out an exciting volunteer project at the reserve. In the summer, The Trust's work featured on the Radio Four Charity Appeal, narrated by award winning garden designer Chris Beardshaw. Over two million listeners tuned in to hear the appeal which generated over £14,000 in donations. The Trust was delighted to receive a substantial number of requests for grassland advice and recruit new volunteers – including its new Treasurer, Michael Herington. During the summer, staff and volunteers attended local shows and events. Spreading the word about what we do has seen a marked improvement in website hits as well helped boost the Trust's supporter numbers from 30 last year to 500.

Grassland Management and Advice

Giving advice on grassland management remains an integral part of the Trust's work and during the year staff responded to a significant number of requests for assistance and help; over 40 enquiries came via the Trust's Radio Four Charity Appeal and were dealt with on a case by case basis. This type of service is currently free of charge, but can be very demanding on resources. The Trust is therefore hoping to introduce a charging scheme for some of its advisory work, enabling costs to be recouped. It is hoped that this service, which will include providing more user-friendly information on the Trust's website, will be launched in 2010.

Staff also advised on the development of a number of local and national grassland projects, including the Open University's National Floodplain Meadows project, and the Dorset based initiative, Pastures New.

This year also saw the Trust launch a ground-breaking project in the North East of England which involves working closely with Natural England and a small group of landowners to restore nearly 50 hectares of a magnesian limestone grassland – one of the UK's rarest grassland habitats. The project involves carrying out restoration work over a ten year period under the country's first grouped Higher Level Stewardship scheme. The Trust will manage the agreement on behalf of the landowners – who otherwise would not be able to access this type of agri-environment scheme funding. The aim of the project is to ensure that what little remains of this habitat is properly protected and new areas created. Many of the sites are isolated, hard to access or graze, or subject to anti-social behavior. The Trust hopes to come up with the solutions to tackle such issues and, if successful, this project is likely to be repeated in other areas of the country.

Site management

Carmel National Nature Reserve

Situated in Carmarthenshire, West Wales, Carmel National Nature Reserve (NNR is one of the UK's richest wildlife areas and is The Grasslands Trust's flagship reserve. This spectacular site boasts 14 different habitats, which are home to some of our rarest wildlife including mainland Britain's only turlough (a seasonal lake). Adjoining the reserve are ancient meadows which date back to the ninth century. Limestone quarrying has taken place across this area since the mediaeval times and still continues today.

In 2005 The Grasslands Trust assumed management of the site, through a long term lease agreement with the owners Tarmac Ltd, in order to remedy issues relating to visitor access, overgrazing and scrub encroachment. With funding from the Welsh Assembly Government; CWM Environment Trust; the National Lottery and a significant number of charitable trusts, the Trust has undertaken an extensive programme of work, including the purchase of two blocks of additional grassland (totaling 16 hectares) to extend the reserve, connect up other pieces of land owned by private landowners and make grazing the site significantly easier.

Restoration work continued throughout 2009 with regular contributions from over 50 volunteers. Substantial areas of unwanted cotoneaster and bracken were cleared and new cattle handling pens, gateways and kissing gates installed. At the land known as Stag and Pheasant, contractors completed 1.3kms of fencing and installed three new water troughs. This was much more difficult than expected due to the terrain being much rockier and considerably drier than in other parts of the reserve. Welsh mountain ponies and cattle were able to graze the land. Two information panels were installed which inform visitors about the rich history of the land and the plants and wildlife that can be found on the site. Visitor numbers to the reserve have visibly increased following the opening up of Stag and Pheasant and the creation of new walks and trails.

With funding from a number of grant making trusts, The Trust was able to purchase a range of tools, equipment and clothing - including a trailer and ATV. A Health and Safety inspection was also carried out by a consultant at the beginning of 2009.

A number of public events took place at the reserve ranging from guided walks for local residents and members of the public to the Bat Conservation Trust helping volunteers install bat boxes. The local primary school is now providing visitor interpretation materials for the reserve. Other special events included a one day grassland management training course with Flora locale.

Carmel is also special for its ancient woodlands which in the nineteenth century provided the fuel for the huge limekilns situated on the western part of the reserve. Like the grasslands, the woodlands also need conservation management. During 2008-09 the Trust launched its 'Carmel's Ancient Woodland Treasures' project which over two years will restore 20 hectares of ancient semi-natural woodland. Carmel's woods support a rich diversity of plants such as Wood anemone, Bluebell, Herb Paris and Toothwort, bracken fungus, rare moths and mammals such as the Dormouse and Greater horseshoe bat. During 2009 volunteers began coppicing and thinning, clearing scrub and managing the woodland edges, particularly those adjacent to existing wildflower-rich glades and rides.

Durham's Magnificent Grasslands

In Spring 2009 the Trust launched a ground-breaking project in the North East of England to protect one of the UK's rarest grassland habitats – Magnesian limestone grassland. With only 272 hectares remaining in the UK, Magnesian limestone grassland is home to some very special wildlife: flowers such as Bee orchid, Dropwort and Rock rose; birds such as Little owl, Lapwing and Skylark and butterflies such as the Northern brown argus butterfly.

Typically sites are fragmented and too small for landowners to benefit from agri-environment incentives such as the current Higher Level Stewardship scheme. This lack of financial support is one of the main reasons for the loss of magnesian limestone grasslands. During the year, The Grasslands Trust continued working with Natural England to remedy this problem, and in March successfully brought together several landowners under a special 'group' agreement, in order to access Higher Level Stewardship funding. The Grasslands Trust's role is to administer the scheme's finances and provide expert advice to each landowner for their particular site. Match funding from grant making trusts enabled The Grasslands Trust to appoint a part-time project officer, Claire Bending who joined the Trust in the summer. The restoration of some 50 hectares of Magnesian limestone grassland has now started to take place with contractors being appointed to start a scrub control programme across three of the sites; and grass cutting and raking taking place on other sites inaccessible to machinery. Plans to bring two other sites into the project were also taken forward ready for 2010.

Community Grassland Projects

In 2008 the Heritage Lottery Fund awarded The Grasslands Trust £50,000 to launch its first community grasslands project at Hocombe Mead in Chandler's Ford, Hampshire. This beautiful 400 year old meadow and ancient woodland is situated in a busy residential area surrounded by 10,500 homes. At the time of launching the project less than 40 people visited Hocombe Mead regularly – now we estimate this to be over 200. The eight hectare site was given to Eastleigh Borough Council several years ago as mitigation for housing development. The combination of wet grassland, broad-leaved woodland and a tiny patch of heathland gives Hocombe Mead a wonderfully rich diversity of habitat. This in turn supports a rich variety of wildlife – especially butterflies such as Ringlet, Brimstone and Orange tip. Hocombe Mead is the Council's first and only Local Nature Reserve and is one of the borough's biodiversity gems.

During 2009, Heritage Lottery Funding enabled The Grasslands Trust to take forward an exciting programme of work to improve access to the reserve and raise awareness about grasslands and Hocombe's uniqueness through a series of fun and innovative events. 17 events were held overall ranging from a raptor day to a Teddy Bears' Picnic; a Christmas sing along with the Samaritans followed by a special post festive wildlife walk; a Bat Evening and Fungus Foray; a BBQ; painting and photography workshops and a treasure hunt. Nearly 300 local residents attended our events programme and a further 30 people regularly participated in a series of monthly conservation tasks designed to encourage the local community to get more actively involved in the Mead's conservation. Hocombe Mead has been such a success that it is currently showcased on HLF's website as an exemplary community participation project!

The Grasslands Trust now plans to carry out more community grassland projects like this in order to achieve its vision that one day everyone will live close to a wildlife-rich grassland.

Research

To lobby effectively and convince decision makers that wildlife-rich grasslands deserve better protection The Grasslands Trust needs comprehensive, accurate and up to date grassland data. During 2009 the Trust continued to collate evidence on the quality and extent of wildlife-rich grassland sites across England to inform its work on Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) (England) Regulations 2006. This data together with information gathered from other organisations will be used to produce a report on the State of England's Grasslands, scheduled to be published summer 2010.

LOOKING TO THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS

The Trust has another ambitious year ahead which will see existing projects taken forward and new initiatives developed including – most importantly, plans to acquire one of the finest areas of farmland in Herefordshire in order to safeguard the future management of an extraordinarily rare species-rich grassland habitat. The Farm, which Natural England describes as “exceptional”, is near to Queenswood Country Park, and comprises of 76.5ha of land, which has been farmed by the same family since the 1920s, with the majority of the grassland remaining untouched for the past 50 years. The site is exceptional due to its deadwood fauna as well as yellow meadow ant hills which are a key indicator of the ancient grassland habitat. Plans include restoring the land over a three-year period as well as undertaking an ambitious programme of work to open up the farm to the general public.

Other plans include:

- Continuing to lobby government to ensure grasslands are properly protected under the Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) (England) Regulations and extending our research into Europe working in partnership with the European Forum for Nature Conservation and Pastoralism.
- Developing an Eastleigh Borough-wide Community Grasslands project to celebrate the amazing variety of grassland habitats on our doorstep.
- Taking forward our North of England Group Higher Level Stewardship project focused on magnesian limestone grassland and looking to replicate in other parts of England.
- Publishing a joint report with Natural England that focuses on the plight of grasslands across England and launching a joint national media campaign.
- Continuing the restoration of woodland and grassland rides within areas of Carmel National Nature Reserve with funding provided by Biffaward and Working with Nature.
- Launching a grassland advisory service and online shop to boost unrestricted funds.
- Continue to build influence on policy and advisory groups such as the England Biodiversity Group, Wildlife and Countryside Link, Lowland Agriculture Biodiversity Integration Group and Agriculture Workstream.
- Continuing to influence funders on to the need to support grassland conservation work.
- Continuing to develop and strengthen our work with volunteers at Carmel and within the Trust generally.
- Strengthening the trustee board and developing our committee structure.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The statement of financial activities shows net outgoing resources of £42,663. Reserves at 31st October 2009 were £212,289, including £207,875 restricted funds.

Principal Funding Sources

Despite the economic recession, overall income increased by 17.5% to £247,318. “Donations and Similar Income” secured over the year remained comparable to 2007-08 – and represented 32% of overall income. The Radio Four charity appeal greatly assisted in increasing support from individuals from £3,269 in 2008 to £19,325. The Trust is very grateful to everyone who donated to the appeal and hopes this will continue in successive years.

Charitable Trusts continued to be very supportive of the Trust's work and grant income still remained the largest source of funding. The Trust was delighted to receive the first instalment of a three year grant from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation towards the costs of employing its first Director of Conservation. This is the third grant award made by the Foundation. Likewise, a third grant of £19,800 was received from The Dulverton Trust towards work in Durham. Repeat support from charitable foundations such as these clearly demonstrates a strong belief in The Grasslands Trust's work.

Overall, £170,409 (68%) of the Trust's income was generated from Grant Making Trusts. Lottery funding increased, with £57,346 being secured for projects at Carmel and Hoccombe Mead. The Trust is very grateful to Salesforce for providing gifts in kind to the value of £10,200. It is hoped that corporate support of this kind will continue to grow over the coming years, especially as the Trust develops local initiatives.

Investment Policy

Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserve each year, most of the charity's funds are to be spent in the short term so there are no funds for long term investment. Grants received in advance are invested in The Trust's Standard Life investment account. The Trustees decided to spread investment risk by placing no more than £50,000 in any one bank. During the year £1,209 was generated in interest compared to £7,154 in 2008.

Reserves Policy

As a small charity, The Trustees aim to keep sufficient funds in reserve to maintain work for at least twelve months. This will enable the charity to continue running in the event of a significant drop in funding. At the year end total reserves stood at £73,089, enough to sustain the charity's activities for approximately four months. The reduction in unrestricted funds to £4,414 was partly caused by a drop in bank interest rates, and the need to match fund work at Carmel. During 2010 the Trust intends to increase its unrestricted funding by launching a grassland advisory service, develop an online shop and promote a supporter scheme.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The Grasslands Trust plans to continue the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding requirements. In the long term the Trust wants to see:

- More threatened sites saved
- More grasslands re-established and recreated
- The value of grasslands and the challenge of their conservation more widely recognised by the public, landowners and policy makers
- Policy mechanisms to protect grasslands working better
- Local grasslands available to local people.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the financial activities of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for ensuring that the company maintains an adequate system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded against material loss or unauthorised use and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

So far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware, and each director has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself or herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

AUDITORS

The auditors, BD&M Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment in accordance with Section 487 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:



J N Valters - Trustee
April 27 2010

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GRASSLANDS TRUST

We have audited the financial statements of The Grasslands Trust for the year ended 31st October 2009 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditors

The trustees' (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) responsibilities for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and for being satisfied that the financial statements give a true and fair view are set out in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, and have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006. We also report to you whether, in our opinion, the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is consistent with those financial statements.

In addition we report to you if, in our opinion, the charity has not kept adequate accounting records, if the charity's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made.

We read the Trustees' Annual Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed. We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion

- the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31st October 2009 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006; and
- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is consistent with the financial statements.

N J Singleton FCA FCCA
Statutory Auditor
For and on behalf of BD&M Limited
Statutory Auditors

Skies, 20 St Martinsfield
Winterborne St Martin
Dorchester
Dorset, DT2 9JU

Dated: 27th April 2010

THE GRASSLANDS TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME & EXPENDITURE
ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 2009

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	2008 £
Incoming Resources					
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds:</i>					
<u>Voluntary income</u>					
Donations and similar income	2	70,131	750	70,881	71,925
Investment Income - Bank Interest		1,209	-	1,209	7,154
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities:</i>					
Grants	3	-	170,409	170,409	126,281
Other	4	2,709	2,110	4,819	4,435
Total Incoming Resources		<u>74,049</u>	<u>173,269</u>	<u>247,318</u>	<u>209,795</u>
Resources Expended					
<i>Costs of generating funds:</i>					
Fundraising and publicity costs	5	24,024	2,919	26,943	46,473
<i>Charitable Activities:</i>					
Charitable expenditure	6	74,711	176,757	251,468	219,775
Governance costs	7	10,773	797	11,570	10,081
Total Resources Expended		<u>109,508</u>	<u>180,473</u>	<u>289,981</u>	<u>276,329</u>
Net outgoing/incoming Resources for the period		(35,459)	(7,204)	(42,663)	(66,534)
Total Funds at 1 st November 2008		39,873	215,079	254,952	321,486
Total Funds at 31 st October 2009		<u>4,414</u>	<u>207,875</u>	<u>212,289</u>	<u>254,952</u>

Changes in Resources Applied for Fixed Assets for Charity Use

Net movement in funds	(42,663)	(66,534)
Net resources (invested in) / gained from disposal of fixed assets	(9,025)	(20,000)
Net movement in funds available for future activities	<u>(51,688)</u>	<u>(86,534)</u>

All amounts derive from continuing activities.

All gains and losses recognised in the period are included in the statement of financial activities.

The Notes form part of these financial statements.

THE GRASSLANDS TRUST**BALANCE SHEET**
31ST OCTOBER 2009

	Notes	£	2009 £	£	2008 £
FIXED ASSETS:					
Tangible assets			7,520		-
Heritage assets	9		<u>131,680</u>		<u>131,680</u>
			139,200		131,680
CURRENT ASSETS:					
Debtors	10	6,990		2,552	
Cash at bank		<u>82,476</u>		<u>132,096</u>	
		89,466		134,648	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year					
	11	<u>16,377</u>		<u>11,376</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			73,089		123,272
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES:			<u>212,289</u>		<u>254,952</u>
FUNDS:					
Restricted	12		207,875		215,079
Unrestricted	12		<u>4,414</u>		<u>39,873</u>
			<u>212,289</u>		<u>254,952</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:


J N Valters - Trustee

Approved by the Board on 27 April 2010

The Notes form part of these financial statements

THE GRASSLANDS TRUST
Notes To The Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31st October 2009

I. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 1985, the Statement of Recommended Practice “Accounting and Reporting By Charities” (published March 2005) and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Investment income and gains are allocated to the appropriate fund.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gifts and services in kind are included at their estimated open market valuation.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources. Fund-raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities. Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out. Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

Allocation of costs

Certain types of expenditure are incurred in providing support for activities related directly to the objects of the charity. Payroll costs are allocated on the basis of the estimated percentage of staff time related to various cost centres whilst centralised overhead costs have been allocated to the various cost centres on the basis of staff employed in each area.

Pensions

The Grasslands Trust provides access to a stakeholder pension administered by Ethical Investors with Norwich Union. All eligible employees are invited to join on completion of a probationary period. Five employees have joined and two further employees have elected to have their contributions allocated to an existing stakeholder fund.

Tangible fixed assets

Fixed assets costing more than £500 are capitalised at cost. Depreciation is provided on Plant and machinery 33% of cost in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Heritage Assets

Heritage assets are assets of historical, artistic or scientific importance that are held to advance preservation, conservation and educational objectives of charities at a national or local level. Such assets are central to the achievement of the purposes of such charities and include land, buildings and structures that are conserved and are central to the educational objectives of such charities. They include land relating to the habitat needs of species, or the environment generally.

2. DONATIONS AND SIMILAR INCOME

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2009	2008
	£	£	Total	Total
			£	£
Individuals	-	19,325	19,325	3,269
Charitable Organisations	-	36,200	36,200	57,200
Corporate Support	750	1,652	2,402	500
Gift-aid refunds	-	2,754	2,754	588
Gift in Kind Donations	-	10,200	10,200	10,368
	<u>750</u>	<u>70,131</u>	<u>70,881</u>	<u>71,925</u>

3. GRANTS

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2009	2008
			Total	Total
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	38,640	-	38,640	-
Welsh Assembly	12,800	-	12,800	32,132
John Ellerman Foundation	-	-	-	8,000
Awards For All	-	-	-	14,725
Heritage Lottery Fund	20,000	-	20,000	25,000
Countryside Council for Wales	-	-	-	8,000
Grantscape	6,604	-	6,604	-
J P Getty Charitable Trust	-	-	-	12,500
Charles Hayward Foundation	-	-	-	7,500
Peoples Millions	37,346	-	37,346	-
Dulverton Trust	19,800	-	19,800	-
Rural Payments Agency	6,751	-	6,751	-
Other grants under £5,000 (18)	28,468	-	28,468	18,424
	<u>170,409</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>170,409</u>	<u>126,281</u>

Activity Classification:-

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2009	2008
			Total	Total
Higher Level Stewardship	34,801	-	34,801	-
Site Management	94,968	-	94,968	112,281
Other Restricted (including Staff Costs)	40,640	-	40,640	14,000
	<u>170,409</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>170,409</u>	<u>126,281</u>

4. OTHER

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2009 Total £	2008 Total £
Grazing Income	-	2,709	2,709	1,277
Corporate Vouchers	-	-	-	50
Consultancy Income	2,110	-	2,110	-
Consultancy Gift in Kind	-	-	-	3,108
	<u>2,110</u>	<u>2,709</u>	<u>4,819</u>	<u>4,435</u>

5. FUNDRAISING AND PUBLICITY COSTS

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2009 Total £	2008 Total £
Fundraising Expenses	-	1,358	1,358	1,003
Public relations	1,437	2,059	3,496	-
Staff costs and consultancy fees	565	17,697	18,262	42,386
Office costs	917	2,910	3,827	3,084
	<u>2,919</u>	<u>24,024</u>	<u>26,943</u>	<u>46,473</u>

6. CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

	Charitable Activities £	Support Costs £	2009 Total £	2008 Total £
Advocacy & Awareness	36,412	9,326	45,738	64,460
Advice & Grassland Management	11,549	9,259	20,808	2,985
Research	17,347	2,900	20,247	46,578
Site Management	96,260	16,974	113,234	93,014
Marketing & Publicity	847	2,742	3,589	-
Community Grasslands	37,036	10,816	47,852	12,738
	<u>199,451</u>	<u>52,017</u>	<u>251,468</u>	<u>219,775</u>

Natural classification:-

	2009 Total £	2008 Total £
Site costs	63,230	46,429
Ecology & feasibility Studies	255	10,551
Staff Costs	145,645	121,656
Office costs	39,784	37,946
Legal and Professional fees	2,537	75
Education	17	3,118
	<u>251,468</u>	<u>219,775</u>

7. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2009 Total £	2008 Total £
Staff costs	3,765	1,565
Trustee meetings and expenses	2,440	2,689
Office costs	603	516
Legal fees	2,447	2,562
Auditors remuneration	2,071	2,056
Other Accounting Costs	244	693
	<u>11,570</u>	<u>10,081</u>

8. EMPLOYEE COSTS

Total remuneration of £1,171 was made to trustee Bob Gibbons in respect of photography services provided in the period. No other Trustee received any remuneration (2008 £nil). The costs of the remaining staff were:

	2009 £	2008 £
Wages and Salaries	131,746	133,427
Childcare Voucher Administration Costs	98	143
Social Security costs	10,732	11,384
Pension costs	7,047	4,883
	<u>149,623</u>	<u>149,837</u>

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the period. The average full time equivalent number of staff employed by the charity during the period was as follows:

	2009	2008
Fundraising	0.81	1.45
Advocacy & Awareness	1.04	1.11
Advice & Grassland Management	0.71	0.09
Research	0.65	1.17
Site Management	2.24	1.44
Marketing & Publicity	0.12	-
Community Grasslands	1.21	0.16
Governance	0.10	0.06
	<u>6.88</u>	<u>5.48</u>

9. HERITAGE & TANGIBLE ASSETS

	Site Equipment	Freehold Land £	Totals £
COST:			
At 1 st November 2008	-	131,680	131,680
Additions	9,025	-	9,025
	<u>9,025</u>	<u>131,680</u>	<u>140,705</u>
At 31 st October 2009			
	-	-	-
Charge for the year	1,505	-	1,505
At 31 st October 2009	<u>1,505</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,505</u>

NET BOOK VALUE:

At 31st October 2009	7,520	131,680	139,200
At 31st October 2008	-	131,680	131,680

Freehold Land:

Land at Stag & Pheasant, Carmel	20,000
Land adjoining Pantycastell Fach, Maesybont	40,000
Land at South Poorton, Dorset	71,680
	<u>131,680</u>

New equipment purchased half way through the financial year has been depreciated at 6 months. The Grasslands Trust purchased South Poorton Farm in 2004 and is the registered holder of the title. The land is jointly managed with The Dorset Trust For Nature Conservation Limited. The Trust has a lease on land at Carmel, Wales for 15 years from 5th July 2006 at a peppercorn rent.

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2009	2008
	£	£
Operational debtors	2,270	-
Other debtors and prepayments	559	543
VAT Refund Due	1,992	1,568
Income Tax Recoverable	2,169	441
	<u>6,990</u>	<u>2,552</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2009	2008
	£	£
Accounts Payable	7,904	8,071
Accrued Expenses	4,082	3,264
Credit Card	851	-
Pension Contributions Accrued	3,540	41
	<u>16,377</u>	<u>11,376</u>

12. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Balance at 1 st Nov 2008	Income	Expenditure	Net incoming resources	Transfers	Balance at 31 st Oct 2009
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted						
Land at Pantycastell	40,000	-	-	-	-	40,000
Land at South Poorton	71,680	-	-	-	-	71,680
Land at Stag & Pheasant	20,000	-	-	-	-	20,000
Fixed Assets Equipment	-	-	1,504	(1,504)	9,025	7,521
Carmel running costs	23,098	70,968	79,913	(8,945)	(9,025)	5,128
Hay Meadows	5,050	-	5,050	(5,050)	-	-
Higher Level Scheme	(75)	36,911	14,947	21,964	-	21,889
Hocombe running costs	30,028	24,750	46,697	(21,947)	-	8,081
Other restricted grants	25,298	40,640	32,362	8,278	-	33,576
	<u>215,079</u>	<u>173,269</u>	<u>180,473</u>	<u>(7,204)</u>	-	<u>207,875</u>

General Funds	39,873	74,049	109,508	(35,459)	-	4,414
	<u>254,952</u>	<u>247,318</u>	<u>289,981</u>	<u>(42,663)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>212,289</u>

The restricted funds for land at Pantycastell, South Poorton and Stag & Pheasant represent grants received for the purchase of the land. The restricted funds for Equipment represent grants received for the purchase of site equipment at Carmel, Wales.

Grants for running costs and Hay Meadows have been allocated to the project specified by the funder.

Grants restricted to Higher Level Scheme are utilised to fund the Group Stewardship Scheme in Durham. Other restricted grants were received to fund specific staff and office costs across multiple projects.

13. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	General Fund		
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	7,520	7,520
Heritage assets	-	131,680	131,680
Net current assets	4,414	68,675	73,089
Balance at 31 st October 2009	<u>4,414</u>	<u>207,875</u>	<u>212,289</u>

14. TRUSTEES EXPENSES

Travel expenses have been reimbursed to two trustees amounting to £944 in the year (2008 £1,262). In some cases Trustees donate their expenses back to the Trust.